

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1386

By Southerland

A RESOLUTION to commend Crystal Ottinger for her honorable and astute service to the people of Tennessee as Mayor of Cocke County.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Crystal Ottinger is one such estimable person who evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, a longtime public servant, Ms. Ottinger is stepping down as Mayor of Cocke County; in choosing not to run for election to a third term in 2022, she is ending eight years of service as a Cocke County public official; and

WHEREAS, Crystal Ottinger took the oath of office on September 1, 2014, becoming the first woman and the youngest person ever to serve as Mayor of Cocke County; and

WHEREAS, a lifelong resident of Cocke County, Mayor Ottinger is a graduate of Cosby High School, and she received an Associate of Science degree in Business Management with a minor in accounting from National College in Knoxville; and

WHEREAS, prior to becoming mayor, Crystal Ottinger served as Assistant Director for the Cocke County Emergency Communications District (E-911) for nine years and Interim Director for one year; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Ottinger further honed her leadership abilities by completing the Certified Public Manager and Local Government Leadership programs through the University of Tennessee Institute for Public Service; and

WHEREAS, by virtue of her position as mayor, Crystal Ottinger is an ex officio member of every county committee in Cocke County; along with her many official duties, she also serves as a member of the Conagra Food Foundation; Executive Board, South Rural Planning

Organization; Cocke County Partnership and Economic Development Committee; City of Newport and Cocke County Joint Industrial Development Board; Smoky Mountain Area Workforce Board/Consortium of Local Elected Officials; East Tennessee Development District Legislative Subcommittee; ETDD/ETHRA Executive Committee; East Tennessee Mayors Caucus; Cocke County, Tennessee Nutrition and Consumer Education Program Coalition; Executive Committee for the East TN Regional Agribusiness Marketing Authority; Newport Medical Center Board of Trustees; Cocke County Board of Health; and the State Local Government Planning Advisory Committee; and

WHEREAS, wholly committed to serving the needs of her community, Mayor Ottinger is a volunteer at Unity in the Community, Feed My Sheep Ministries, and Cosby School Personal Care Pantry; and

WHEREAS, her many accomplishments aside, Crystal Ottinger is grateful for the love and companionship she shares with her husband, Weston, and their three children; members of the Eagle View Community Church, the family is actively involved in the School Backpack, Living Water, and Hispanic Migrant ministries; and

WHEREAS, throughout her exemplary tenure as Mayor of Cocke County, Crystal Ottinger has distinguished herself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to her community; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Ottinger's remarkable success as a public servant and civic leader is directly attributable to her reliance on the time-honored values of hard work and common sense and her uncommon ability to work well with people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, Crystal Ottinger is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the Volunteer State, and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby commend Crystal Ottinger for her honorable and astute service

to the good people of Tennessee as Mayor of Cocke County and salute her unswerving commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.